

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

·INFORMATION LETTER

PUBLICATION OR REPRODUCTION NOT PERMITTED

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STATUS OF THE CODE

The Association on May 9 sent to all canners information regarding the status of the proposed code for the canning industry, including copy of a letter to Division Administrator Armin W. Riley of the NRA under date of May 8, pointing out the ill effect of further delay in giving approval to the code. Accompanying the letter were two memoranda furnishing a complete record of the code negotiations and of the industry's position on code questions.

Canners were also sent a memorandum relative to the action of the Board of Directors at their meeting on January 15, instructing the officers, Administrative Council, Code Committee and other committees to continue their efforts toward securing the approval of a separate code for the canning industry.

Delay in action on the code by the NRA resulted in the Association receiving many inquiries as to the status of the code, and the Association therefore decided to lay the complete record before all canners so that they may know how the negotiations have progressed and what is responsible for the delay.

EXTENSION OF PRESIDENT'S REEMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Employers not yet under approved codes, who desire to continue displaying the Blue Eagle are not required to apply individually for extension of their Reemployment Agreement with the President.

Under the President's Executive Order of April 14, offering a blanket extension of the agreement, it is only necessary for such employers to continue to comply with their obligations under the original agreement. Display of the Blue Eagle will indicate they have renewed their agreement with the President and are complying with its terms.

The text of the Executive Order which was issued in connection with the announcement of plans for distribution of distinctive Blue Eagles for each industry or trade now under an approved code was as follows:

"By virtue of the authority vested in me under the provisions of title I of the National Industrial Recovery Act, approved June 16, 1933 (ch. 90, 48 Stat. 195), and in order to effectuate the purposes of said title and in extension of Executive Order No. 6515 of December 19, 1933, entitled,

'Extension of the President's Reemployment Agreement to April 30, 1934,' I hereby offer to enter into the President's Reemployment Agreement with the head of every business establishment as to any part of his business not subject to an approved code of fair competition, for a further period beginning May 1, 1934, and ending when that part of his business becomes subject to an approved code of fair competition.

"Employers who shall have signed the President's Reemployment Agreement before May 1, 1934, may accept this offer of extension by display of the Blue Eagle on or after May 1, 1934, and such display by them shall be deemed an acceptance of this offer. Employers who shall not have signed the President's Reemployment Agreement before May 1, 1934, may accept this offer of extension by signing the President's Reemployment Agreement.

"All substitutions and exemptions approved, and all exceptions granted to particular employers, before May 1, 1934, will apply to the President's Reemployment Agreement as so extended.

"I hereby authorize the Administrator for Industrial Recovery to make such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary to supplement, amplify, or carry out the purposes and intent of this Executive order."

HEARING ON BILL TO AMEND AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, on May 8, began public hearings on the bill (S. 3326) to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act as requested by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary had previously been heard in executive session, but the committee, yielding to a flood of requests from industries affected by the amendments, granted public hearings to afford opponents of the bill an opportunity to present objections.

On May 10, the Association appeared, through counsel, and objected to the bill on the ground that its provisions go beyond clarification of the original act and constitute broad extension of the powers granted to the Secretary of Agriculture. Specific objection was made to the extension of the license authority, to the "book clause," to authority to assess licensees for funds to meet expenses of administration, to the publicity clause, and to other provisions.

Among the opponents of the bill appearing at the hearing were representatives of the millers, feed manufacturers, apple shippers, meat packers, wool growers, tanners, mercantile exchanges, ice cream manufacturers, creamery butter manufacturers and corn products manufacturers.

DIVISIONAL CRAB CODE APPROVED

The divisional code under the national fisheries code for the blue crab industry has been approved by National Recovery Administrator Hugh S. Johnson. The code will go into operation Monday, May 14.

INTENDED ACREAGE FOR GREEN LIMA BEANS

Reports to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from 25 representative packers of green lima beans, giving acreage which these firms intend to contract or plant in 1934, indicate an increase of 27.3 per cent over that planted in 1933. The 25 reporting firms grew or contracted about two-thirds of the total acreage estimated for 1933. Nineteen of the 25 firms reported plans to increase acreage, one firm indicated a decrease, and five showed no change.

Should changes in total acreage be made in line with these indications, a total of 22,100 acres would be planted in 1934, compared with 17,360 acres in 1933, 17,930 acres in 1932, 29,740 acres in 1931, and with a peak of 33,780 acres in 1930.

The following table shows, by States, the total acreages which would result if changes are made in line with late April reports from packers to contract and plant acreage in 1934. As these planned acreages may be modified before plantings are actually made, they are not to be considered as estimates of planted acreage for the coming season. The acreage finally planted in 1934 may be greater or less than present indications, depending upon further adjustments which packers and growers may make in their plans between now and planting time.

State	Planted Acreage			Intended in 1934		
	1930	1931	1932	1933	As per cent of 1933	Acres indicated
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Per Cent	Acres
New Jersey	1,950	1,450	1,250	1,600	125	2,000
Delaware	10,500	8,400	4,000	4,200	138	5,800
Maryland	4,270	3,900	2,300	2,300	130	3,000
Virginia	4,480	5,340	5,000	5,350	101	5,400
Michigan	6,030	4,300	1,780	1,100	232	2,550
Other States ^a	6,550	6,200	3,000	2,810	119	3,350
Total	33,780	29,740	17,930	17,360	127.3	22,100

^a "Other States" include Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, and Wisconsin.

PLANTING AND CONDITION OF CANNING PEAS

The following state summaries on green peas for canning were compiled from canners' reports to the Crop Reporting Board, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, on or about May 1. Since it is too early in most sections to report condition of the growing crop, the summaries are meant to show, in a general way, progress of planting, soil and weather conditions, and, in a few areas, the present state of growth. The reports refer to May 1, with no allowance for growing conditions since that date.

MAINE.—Planting conditions favorable, although season is later than in 1933. Very little planted.

NEW YORK.—Season late and wet. Probably 25 to 30 per cent planted. Frosts and freezes reported.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Season two weeks late with much of the acreage just being planted. Some peas reported coming up and looking fine.

OHIO.—Season two to three weeks late and cold, dry weather resulting in poor germination of the seed.

INDIANA.—Peas coming up, condition is good but crop needs rain.

ILLINOIS.—Practically all planted but germination and growth retarded by cold, dry weather.

MICHIGAN.—Plantings under way, with weather conditions dry and cold.

WISCONSIN.—Plantings being made under relatively unfavorable conditions. Reports indicate a deficiency of subsoil moisture and cold, dry weather at planting time. Frosts and freezes occurring nearly every night in some sections of state. Where plantings have been made, germination has been slow because of low temperatures and lack of moisture.

MINNESOTA.—Planting operations proceeding under extremely dry conditions. Rainfall in April was only one-half of normal.

DELAWARE.—Crop is two to three weeks later than usual but looks good.

MARYLAND.—Crop is very late, most of the acreage going out in April instead of March. Subsoil moisture is abundant, however, and the crop is reported as coming up nicely.

VIRGINIA.—Crop is somewhat late due to considerable replanting. Growing conditions now favorable and vines look good.

MONTANA.—Worst season to date in 13 years. Rivers practically dry and no rainfall. Prospects for a pea crop very poor unless cool, wet weather prevails during May.

COLORADO.—Most of the acreage is planted. Some peas are up and looking good, due to several good rains during the last week of April.

UTAH.—Season is two to three weeks earlier than usual. Stands are good but crop is badly in need of rain.

WASHINGTON.—Season is earlier than usual with a large part of the acreage already planted. Soil and climatic conditions are good and some peas are up and growing nicely.

TRUCK CROP PROSPECTS

Following are summaries from the May 10 releases of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on commercial truck crops:

SNAP BEANS.—A revised estimate of acreage for the second early group of States shows an increase of 46 per cent over the 1933 acreage but an increase of only 3 per cent over the five-year average acreage, 1928-1932. The production is expected to be 87 per cent larger than last year's production but about the same as the five-year average production. The acreage reported for the first section of intermediate States is more than one-half greater than either the 1933 acreage or the five-year average acreage.

GREEN PEAS.—For the first section of intermediate States (North Carolina and Virginia) production is forecast at 247,000 bushels on 4,600 acres, as compared with 317,000 bushels produced on 5,680 acres last year, indicating decreases of 19 per cent in acreage and 22 per cent in production. There is an estimated acreage of 2,930 for the two later intermediate States (Maryland and New Jersey), which is 7 per cent smaller than the 1933 acreage of 3,150.

PEPPERS.—There are 585,000 bushels forecast for the spring crop of peppers in Florida, compared with 580,000 bushels last spring, or an indicated increase of about 1 per cent. Although the reported acreage, 3,900 acres, is more than one-third greater than the 1933 acreage of 2,900, the average yield per acre is expected to be one-fourth less.

CABBAGE.—Recent reports on the acreage and probable production in the second early group of States indicate increases over 1933 of 8 per cent in acreage and 5 per cent in the expected production. The average indicated yield per acre is about 2 per cent below that of last year. A preliminary estimate of acreage for the intermediate group of States is 13 per cent above the 1933 acreage and 9 per cent above a five-year average acreage, 1928-1932.

CHERRY CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON

A group of canners and growers representing cherry production and canning in Michigan, New York, Wisconsin and Ohio conferred with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration on May 7 and 8, and discussed the possibilities of effecting a marketing agreement to control 1934 operations. No final decision was reached at this conference. The group, before adjournment, prepared a statement of policy which the representatives of the various groups took home with them for further discussion with growers and canners who did not attend the

Washington meeting. The statement indicated that further discussions will be held at meetings in Traverse City, Mich., and at Cleveland, Ohio, late in May and early in June.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKET COMPETITION

The movement of vegetables and fruits competing with canned products during the week ending May 5, was featured by considerably smaller shipments of asparagus and green peas than during the preceding week, and considerably larger shipments of snap and lima beans. There was also some gain in shipments of spinach and other greens. The following table, compiled from statistics of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, gives a record of the carlot movement.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS AND IMPORTS OF FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
COMPETING WITH CANNED

Commodity	Week ending	Week ending—		Total for season through May 5	
	April 28	1934	May 5 1933	1934	1933
Asparagus	242	155	148	3,337	2,816
Beans, snap and lima	364	481	428	8,709	8,043
Spinach and greens	180	216	227	9,359	10,301
Green peas	340	297	421	3,327	2,235
All other vegetables:					
Domestic					
Competing directly	5,438	5,405	4,731	93,084	81,400
Competing indirectly	220	210	278	48,543	54,212
Imports					
Competing directly	143	122	233	2,300	3,348
Competing indirectly	6	5	13	1,533	1,859
Fruits					
Citrus, domestic	3,243	3,108	2,853	82,021	79,064
Imports	9	32	0	583	413
Others, domestic	1,800	2,045	1,904	15,483	17,910
Imports	11	3	7	96	66
Index of fresh vegetable prices	60	60.5	51		

PRESIDENT SIGNS REVENUE BILL

The revenue bill was approved by President Roosevelt on May 10. Termination of the tax on fruit juices is effected by the following provision:

"No tax shall be imposed under section 615 of the Revenue Act of 1932 on the sale or use of any article if such sale or use takes place after the date of the enactment of this Act."

WATERMELON MARKETING AGREEMENT HEARING SET

A public hearing on a proposed marketing agreement for the watermelon industry in the Southeastern States will be held May 14 at Savannah, Ga.

The marketing agreement is proposed by watermelon cooperative marketing associations and a committee of shippers. The industry in the Southeast is centered in Georgia, Florida, North

Carolina and South Carolina. The proposed agreement aims to increase returns to growers through regulation of the volume of shipments to bring them more closely in accord with demand.

DUTY ON CANNED CLAMS CHANGED

The Tariff Commission has announced that the President has approved a report under section 336 of the Tariff Act of 1930, decreasing the rate of duty on canned razor clams from 35 to 23 per cent ad valorem; and increasing the amount of duty to be collected on other canned clams by making them dutiable at 35 per cent assessed on the American selling price rather than on the foreign value. The findings of the Commission and the changed rate of duty on canned clams other than razor clams also apply to combinations of clams with other substances except clam chowder.

The investigation by the Commission was made in response to applications received from domestic packers of canned clams requesting an increase in the duty and from foreign packers requesting a decrease.

VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION SEEKS CANNED FOOD BIDS

The Procurement Division of the Veterans' Administration is asking for bids on various canned foods, one set of bids to be opened on May 23 and another on June 1.

On May 23 bids for delivery of the following supplies at Perryville, Md., will be opened: 100 dozen No. 10 cans carrots, 600 dozen 14 oz. bottles catsup, 600 dozen 12 or 14 oz. bottles chili sauce, 200 dozen No. 10 cans figs, 50 dozen No. 10 cans hominy lye, 50 dozen 1-gallon cans dill pickles, 25 dozen 1-gallon cans sour pickles, 50 dozen 1-gallon cans sweet pickles, 50 dozen 1-gallon cans sweet relish, 40 dozen No. 2½ cans sweet potatoes, 300 dozen No. 10 cans tomato puree, 50 dozen No. 10 cans crab-apple jelly, 50 dozen No. 10 cans grape jelly, 20 dozen No. 10 cans apple butter.

On June 1 bids will be opened for 2,242 dozen No. 10 cans red sour pitted cherries, 608 dozen for delivery at Perryville, Md., 362 dozen at San Francisco and 1,272 dozen at Chicago. On the same date bids will be opened for 5,277 dozen No. 10 cans apricots, 1,586 dozen for delivery at Perryville, Md., 2,191 dozen at Chicago and 1,500 dozen at San Francisco.

LEAFLET ON TOMATO STATISTICS

With this issue of the Information Letter is mailed the leaflet giving statistics of the canned tomato pack in 1933. Additional copies are available upon request.

INDIANA TOMATO SEED CERTIFICATION

A seed inspection and certification service will be offered at cost to producers of tomato seed in Indiana during 1934 by the Indiana State Entomologist in cooperation with the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, it was announced recently. The service, which will be in charge of Dr. R. W. Samson, of the Purdue Botany Department, will be available to any seed producer in the state who files proper application. All inquiries regarding the service should be addressed to Dr. Samson.

The inspection proper will be made by Deputy State Entomologists, who will also be official representatives of the Purdue Experiment Station.

In order to be certified, tomato seed must have been inspected and approved by these agencies as being of a specified and acceptable variety and must have complied with the standards set forth in the requirements and regulations established for certified seed by them. The service will include inspection and approval of plant bed sites, seed sowing and distribution of plants to the seed fields. The fields will be inspected before harvest. Inspectors will also be maintained at the extraction plants during the extraction, treatment, drying and packaging of the seed. Only seed from plants passing the various inspections and which has been saved and treated in satisfactory manner will be certified.

All certified seed that is to be offered for sale or delivered as such must bear the official tag of the Indiana State Entomologist.

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